

BULLETIN

of the
MAHONING COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY

Volume XLIV

APRIL, 1974

Number 4



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Warnings: Do not use dietary potassium supplements or potassium salts unless hypokalemia develops or dietary potassium intake is markedly impaired.

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Precautions: Do periodic serum electrolyte and BUN determinations. Do periodic hematologic studies in cirrhotics with splenomegaly. Antihypertensive effects may be enhanced in postsympathectomy patients. The following may occur: hyperuricemia and gout, reversible nitrogen retention, decreasing alkali reserve with possible metabolic acidosis, hyperglycemia and glycosuria (diabetic insulin requirements may be altered), digitalis intoxication (in hypokalemia). Use cautiously in surgical patients. Concomitant use with antihypertensive agents may result in an additive hypotensive effect.

Adverse Reactions: Muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, headache, dry mouth; anaphylaxis; rash, urticaria, photosensitivity, purpura, other dermatological conditions; nausea and vomiting (may indicate electrolyte imbalance), diarrhea, constipation, other gastrointestinal disturbances. Rarely, necrotizing vasculitis, paresthesias, icterus, pancreatitis, and xanthopsia have occurred with thiazides alone.

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Mahoning County Medical Society Meetings — 1974

January	March	May	September	November	December
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From the Desk of the President

A NIGHTMARE OF BUREAUCRACY

The C. P. C. (clino-pathologic-conference) is well known by all doctors. This is where we sat in awe as a physician carefully and skillfully dissected the history, physical, x-rays and laboratory procedures of the deceased patient to make a correct diagnosis of the unusual or rare disease to which the patient succumbed.

Today a new and modern C. P. C. faces the doctor. It is the Czar-Planners and Commissars group. This one, however, not only threatens the patient but also the physician. It also is capable of consuming both. They have laws, theories, plans, ideas and proposals that attempt to deprive the patient and the doctor of freedom of choice, patient-doctor confidentiality, quality medical care and freedom of the individual.

The C. P. C. are attacking and counter-attacking on many fronts. Just a few of our problems are: Of the 100 recommendations of the Ohio Governor's Task Force on Health Services one would recommend the merger of the State's seven Blue Cross plans into one organization *under State control* and answerable to a nine-member commission appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Ohio State Senate. Another example of a Health Czar to control physicians, patients and hospitals throughout the state by politicians.

The Certificate of Need is another recent attempt at controlling the locations of physicians and the operation of their offices. A group of physicians in New Jersey decided to open an additional office in a community. The N. J. State Health Department issued a "cease and desist order," stating that the group must be granted a Certificate of Need before it could operate its new office! In Wisconsin attempts were also made to invoke such a certificate as a means of controlling expenditures for physicians' offices, particularly group practices. The action in Wisconsin has been appealed.

Confidentiality between a doctor and his patient would not exist if left to the C. P. C.

In Ohio Sen. S. J. Arnoff, R-8, Cincinnati, fears that there is no right of privacy. He accordingly has introduced a bill in the Ohio General Assembly requiring that a citizen would have to *consent* to having personal information about himself stored in a computer. The P.S.R.O. law would do away with confidentiality.

The H.M.O. (Health Maintenance Organizations) would use *federal tax funds* to subsidize by direct grant and by loans the development of closed-panel prepaid group practice to provide tax subsidized competitors. This is more control by government.

We need less government intervention in medicine and not more. As President Wilson said, "The history of liberty is a history of limitation of government power — never the increase of it."

—John C. Melnick, M.D.
President



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of the Mahoning County Medical Society

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The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

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Editorial

"BREAD AND CIRCUSES"

On January 30, President Nixon proposed that congress allocate \$26.3 billion for federal health programs. Shortly afterward, he proposed a \$37.5 billion national health insurance guaranteeing basic medical benefits for rich and poor alike. Thus, within a short period of time the President called for an expenditure of \$64 billion on health programs. This increased spending of federal tax dollars has been proposed by the same President Nixon who has said on more than one occasion that the government must be returned to the people, who have been relying too long on Washington bureaucrats to take care of their every needs.

Somewhere along the line, we're going to get socked for all these proposals. We'll not only pay higher taxes, because Uncle Sam has no other source of revenue, but also more for what we buy because his health insurance plan mandates that employers pay two thirds of the coverage premiums. There is only one way for business to recover the premiums outlay—charge more for products. In addition to paying a third of the premiums, employers also would be liable for 25% of medical bills up to a maximum of \$1500.

This brings up a highly paradoxical phenomenon. A recent Louis Harris poll shows that there is a deep lack of confidence in the federal government with the executive branch being rated the lowest. The same poll shows that the medical profession rated the highest among all major institutions. Yet, there are those who crusade for government to take over the medical profession under a sweeping national health insurance law. Make no mistake, my colleagues, when the costs of these monstrous programs will skyrocket (and they will) the blame will be placed upon us and further restrictions will come about leading eventually to complete socialization of medicine.

This suspiciously resembles the "bread and circuses" programs that were given to the Roman masses to take their attention away from the excesses being committed by their rulers. However, it didn't prevent the fall of the great Roman Empire. If anything, it hastened it. Let's hope that this is not the forecast of our nation!

—Louis Bloomberg, M.D.
Editor


 Youngstown

Mahoning Month in Review...

A summary of recent developments in the field of health in Mahoning County

DENTISTS CELEBRATE 60TH YEAR — The Corydon Palmer Dental Society marked the 60th year of its founding at a meeting in January. The Society was named for a Warren dentist, Dr. Corydon Palmer, who gained national prominence for his advanced techniques and procedures. Dr. J. J. Martzial Jr. is 1974 president of the Society.

* * * * *

COUNTY BOARD HIRES HEALTH EDUCATOR — The Mahoning County Board of Health has employed James Kennedy, former sanitarian, as its first health educator. The City Board of Health has had a health educator, Paul Kline, for several years.

* * * * *

SANATORIUM FOR SALE — The Mahoning County TB Sanatorium has been phased out and the property—7½ acres with hospital, nurses' home, boiler house and garage—is for sale. Interested parties may inquire at the office of the County Commissioners.

* * * * *

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE IN DIFFICULTY — Student health services in Youngstown's public schools are operating on a week-to-week basis due to financial problems. The program currently employs 2 registered nurses, 6 practical nurses, 6 health aides and 1 secretary, financed in part by funds from an Emergency Employment Act grant. A physician and dental hygienist are also available.

* * * * *

WELFARE SCREENING PROGRAM ACTIVATED — The Mahoning County Welfare Department began its "Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment" program in February. The Department expects to check 9,300 children under Aid to Dependent Children program plus others not defined. The program is mandated by the Federal government for states taking part in Title 19 programs.

* * * * *

COMMUNITY CHEST BEGINS HOT MEAL PROGRAM — A nutritional program for the elderly sponsored by the Community Chest recently began operating at 5 sites, including 3 in Youngstown, 1 in Campbell and 1 in Sebring. The program provides a hot meal at noon Mondays through Fridays.

* * * * *

CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT EXPANDS — A storeroom on Phelps St. adjacent to City Hall has been opened to house the Youngstown Board of Health's consumer affairs and health education divisions. The dairy and food inspectors and sanitary police will move back into city hall from space rented to accomodate them at Central Tower.

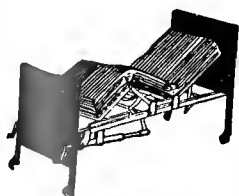
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AGENCY USES TB SAN BUILDING — The nurses' residence at the TB Sanatorium became a home for runaways manned by the Youth Services Bureau. There are an average of 50 runaway youth per month in Mahoning County. The home provides a place for them other than the county's juvenile detention home.

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December 1972	194.27
March 1973	181.29
June 1973	166.83
September 1973	190.64
December 1973	178.89
March 1, 1974	161.61

(Unit values shown pertain to the last business day of the month)

Past performance of course provides no indication of future results. If you would like additional information phone (216) 743-1191.

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MAHONING MEMBERS AT 6TH DISTRICT CONFAB



(L to R) Dr. Mahar, Jr., Dr. Dietz, Dr. Chiu, Hart Page, Dr. Anderson, Dr. Tandatnick, Dr. Sovik.



(L to R) Dr. Bloomberg, Dr. Melnick, Dr. Maurice F. Lieber, Dr. Schreiber, Dr. Moskalik, Dr. Pichette, Dr. Wieneke.

Twelve members of the Mahoning County Medical Society, pictured above, attended the March 27th meeting of the Sixth District of the Ohio State Medical Association at Congress Lake Country Club. This was the largest delegation of any of the six counties invited.

Dr. Maurice F. Lieber, Sixth District Councilor, chaired the meeting which was concerned with problems facing the medical profession as a whole, and particularly problems encountered by the Ohio State Medical Association. Hart Page, executive director of OSMA, made a presentation showing the work of the Association with particular emphasis on the need for increased staff to include two lobbyists and two field men plus one full-time public relations director.

The approximately 60 physicians present from the six counties were strongly in favor of increasing OSMA dues to enable the Association to proceed with the increased work and to meet increased costs of operation. It was noted that Ohio is currently third from the bottom in the amount of dues paid by members of the 50 state associations.

Mahoning County representatives took the opportunity to express opinions on what they thought state leadership should be, and, in fact, dominated the discussion period following Mr. Page's presentation.

Delegates and alternate delegates will meet again at Congress Lake on Wednesday, April 24, in a caucus to discuss Sixth District stand on resolutions to come before the OSMA House of Delegates in May.

DINNER DANCE IS APRIL 20th

This year's dinner-dance, to be held Saturday, April 20th at Squaw Creek Country Club will have for its theme, "You've Come a Long Way, Doctor!" In addition, the dance will benefit the scholarship fund of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

Doctors and their wives are reminded to send in reservations to the medical society office so they will be received by April 15th. Checks should be made payable to "Mahoning County Medical Society." Cost is \$27.50 per couple. A free social hour begins at 7:00 p.m., with the dinner at 8:00 and dancing at 9:00. Tom Micklas Orchestra will play for dancing.

As always, guests are welcome, and doctors may bring friends outside the medical profession. The dental society has been invited and doctors should encourage their dental colleagues to attend.

All arrangements have been made by the members of the Auxiliary, so this affair promises to be the best one yet in a long succession of highly successful medical social functions.

DR. SCHREIBER HEADS YHA STAFF

Dr. Jack Schreiber is new chief of staff at Youngstown Hospital Association, succeeding Dr. Robert L. Jenkins whose term expired in March.

Dr. Andrew Detesco was elected president-elect and Dr. Dean E. Stillson, secretary-treasurer. Dr. J. James Anderson is Chairman of the Executive Committee. Both Dr. Schreiber and Dr. Detesco are past-presidents of the Mahoning County Medical Society. Dr. Schreiber and Dr. Anderson are currently delegates to the Ohio State Medical Association, and Dr. Schreiber is an alternate delegate from Ohio to the American Medical Association.

DR. CACCAMO IS MASHEN CHAIRMAN

Dr. Leonard P. Caccamo was elected chairman of the Mahoning Shengango Area Health Education Network, Inc. (MASHEN) at a March meeting, succeeding Dr. Richard W. Juvancic who retires after a three year term of office.

Other officers are Dr. R. A. Wiltsie, first vice chairman; Eugene O'Meara, administrator of Sharon General Hospital, second vice chairman; William Brennan, executive director of the Community Corporation, secretary; and William B. Boyer, assistant secretary of Dollar Savings and Trust Co., treasurer.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

A monthly calendar of medical lectures, seminars and conferences in the vicinity of the five-county MASHEN area is printed and distributed by the MASHEN office. Any doctor not on the mailing list may receive the calendar by phoning 792-7656 and requesting it. The March calendar listed 30 events plus 4 televised programs.

Chairmen of standing committees are: Sister Consolata, evaluation; Dr. Lawrence Looby, medical; Dr. Dan Gergel, dental; Mrs. Louise Hess, R.N., nursing; Dr. Paul Van Zant, allied health; and Joseph Gray, community health education.

Mahoning County physicians on the Board of Trustees include Dr. Caccamo, Dr. Juvancic, Dr. Wiltsie, Dr. William H. Bunn, Dr. Frederick S. Coombs and Dr. S. V. Squicquero.

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EDWARDS SAYS REPEAL PSRO



Dr. Melnick, Marvin Edwards, Dr. C. Conner White.

Marvin H. Edwards, Oklahoma attorney and congressional candidate, told members of four professional organizations that the PSRO law can be repealed. Edwards spoke at the March 19th meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society attended by members and wives of the 10th District Academy of the Ohio Osteopathic Medical Association, the Corydon Palmer Dental Society and the Mahoning County Bar Association.

In what was judged by many to be one of the finest talks ever presented at a Medical society meeting, Atty. Edwards traced the history of National Health Insurance legislation and the current status of a multitude of NHI plans. He reviewed the efforts to repeal the PSRO law and stated that any repeal movement must have the full cooperation of the medical profession. He felt that the desire for repeal was present at the grass-roots level and that doctors must make this known in strong terms to AMA leadership.

Edwards is the former editor of "Private Practice" magazine, and author of the book, "Hazardous to Your Health." He was introduced by Dr. C. Conner White, program chairman.

In a brief business meeting, Dr. W. E. Sovik, chairman of the OSMA committee of Health Manpower, discussed his committee's work and attempts of the committee to find out the opinions of Ohio doctors concerning physicians' assistants. Following his discussion, a motion was passed putting the Mahoning County Medical Society on record as being opposed to the concept of physicians' assistants.

In further business, the first reading was given to a proposed constitutional amendment tightening the qualifications for election to the office of Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the Ohio State Medical Association. The second reading and vote will be made at the May 21st meeting. The proposed amendment is printed elsewhere in the *Bulletin*.

Other business included the election of Bohumila Slabochova, M.D. to intern-resident membership, and the reading of a letter of commendation to Dr. Oscar Clark for his letter of criticism to HEW in regard to precertification. A motion was passed that Dr. Clark be asked to oppose other undesirable aspects of PSRO. Dr. John C. Melnick, president, presided.

SCHOLARSHIP DINNER IS THURSDAY

The Mahoning County Medical Society will honor 56 senior students from 25 area high schools at the eighth annual Scholarship Dinner, Thursday, April 18 at Ramada Inn. Every school in Mahoning County plus Girard, Hubbard, Liberty and Villa Maria will send their top boy and top girl scholar to the banquet. In the case of absolute ties, the tying students will attend. Villa Maria, being a girl's school will send their valedictorian and salutatorian.

Speaker will be Dr. Jack Schreiber. Dr. Louis Bloomberg will be Master of Ceremonies. Arrangements have been made by Dr. Jim Might, public relations chairman.

A number of physicians and their wives will attend to act as hosts for the young people. Hosts are asked to be present at 6:00 to welcome the guests. Dinner is at 6:30.

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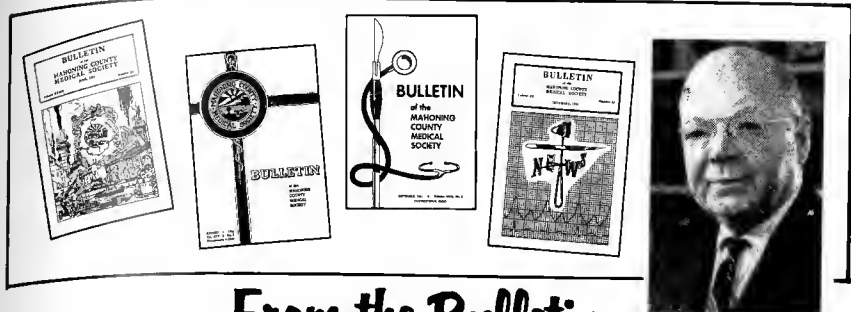
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From the Bulletin

FORTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1934

The Medical-Dental Bureau came into existence that month and this is how it was started. The younger, progressive element in the Society wished to start a service agency to handle the business of the members. Dr. R. B. Poling was chairman of a committee working on it. The older conservative members were strongly opposed to anything but educational activities and the Society was split wide open.

No progress was being made when a fire-ball named McGhee who was running the Akron Medical Bureau came over here and offered to help. Why he came or for what reward, we never determined but all he ever got was free food and entertainment, the last item quite extensive. His plan was simple and workable: Set it up outside the Society, invite the dentists to join and limit membership to those in good standing in their respective Societies. That gave it respectability and freedom to manage its own affairs. Thirty of us put in ten dollars each at a meeting down at the Rip Tavern (these were depression days and ten dollars meant something). Later forty-five more joined, which gave us enough capital to start an office with three telephone girls and a telephone switchboard.

Those of you who take for granted a smoothly operating Bureau do not know of the long hours spent to get it going. McGhee would come over from Akron every Saturday afternoon and the Board (J. B. Nelson, McCurdy, Skipp, Hayden, Hathhorn, Poling, Chessrown, Fuzy and this writer) would meet with him at the Tod Hotel in sessions that would break up on Sunday morning.

We got the thing going and soon had a full time manager. There is not a better Medical-Dental Service Bureau now in Ohio, or anywhere else.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1944

The Youngstown Municipal Hospital for Contagious Diseases was closed. President Elmer Nagel was plugging to have it re-opened as a mental hospital.

Major Walter Tims wrote from England. He was afraid the British Isles would sink from overcrowding. There was to be a great exodus in June, but he did not know that.

O. M. Lawton was promoted to Commander, David Brody and Robert Heaver graduated from field service school at Carlisle Barracks. Ray Hall was home on sick leave after ten months in North Africa where he worked with Wm. McElroy caring for casualties from the Tunisian battlefield.

TWENTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1954

The Mahoning Academy of General Practice sent notices to all the laboratories requesting that they make no laboratory tests on private patients without a requisition from the physician. This was done to stop the practice of taking premarital blood tests by the laboratories.

Robert Tornello and David Brody were certified as Fellows of the American College of Surgeons.

From an A.M.A. Symposium: "And now abideth knowledge, a bedside manner and a good Secretary, these three — but the greatest of all is a good Secretary."

TEN YEARS AGO — APRIL 1964

President of the A.M.A., Edward Annis, that silver voiced orator was announced as speaker for next month and everyone was agog with expectations. Especially our President Schreiber who also had earned a national reputation as a speaker on medical socio-economics.

An old member wrote in to the Editor (Warnock) urging that wives should be invited to our cultural and scientific meetings. They were invited and still are.

New members were: John J. Buckley, Clyde Laurence Bell Jr., Demetrio M. Josef and Kenneth M. Lloyd. Sandy Gaylord was elected a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

David Earl Montgomery died at the age of 74. He was an outstanding G.P. and Surgeon in the days when most every doctor did some family practice. Paul Leimbach of Greenford passed away. He was said to be the last of the "Country Doctors" who started out making the rounds by horse and buggy.

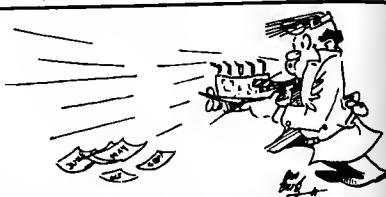
The Polio Committee (Kurt Wegner) reported that there had been no cases of Polio during the past year but urged the doctors to be vigilant in immunizing children with O.P.V.

Only ten years ago we fought Social Security and Medicare with all our might. Now they are facts of life and we can live with them but we have more pressing problems.

Remember that your Medical Society and the A.M.A. have been in there pitching and fighting for you for more than 40 years. They may not be able to stop the trends that affect private practice of medicine but they do change and modify the rules.

—J. L. F.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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April 16

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P. B. Giber

April 18

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April 19

C. C. Wales
K. F. Wieneke

April 21

M. E. Conti

April 22

B. M. Brandmiller
W. D. McElroy
J. A. Rogers

April 23

A. A. Detesco
A. Randell

S. Zlotnick

F. E. Shaw

Y. Jung

April 24

B. P. Brucoli

April 25

M. J. Vuksta

April 26

A. T. Laird

April 28

S. G. Patton, Jr.

May 3

C. Waltner

May 6

J. A. Hyland

May 8

G. T. Szaboky

May 9

G. E. DeCicco

May 11

G. W. Cook

May 12

H. S. Banninga
W. J. Tims

May 13

E. R. McNeal
B. A. Bacani

May 14

W. E. Sovik
C. M. Kohli

"MUST" READING

March issue of Ohio State Medical Journal contains a minority report on the Governor's Task Force on Health, written by William R. Schultz, M.D., that is "must" reading for every doctor in Mahoning County. Don't miss it. It is on the blue sheets in the middle of the magazine.

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PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

March 12, 1974

The regular meeting of the council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, March 12, 1974, at the Youngstown Club.

Council took note of the four resolutions submitted to the Ohio State Medical Association by the Mahoning County Medical Society. Three of these were printed in the March *Bulletin*. The fourth, sent at a later date, is entitled "OSMA Support for Repeal of PSRO Law."

Letters from OSMA were noted, stating that they had received our resolutions; that they received notification of our new delegate line-up; that they will reissue a new charter to us inasmuch as we cannot locate the one issued in 1923; and that OSMA is taking up gasoline rationing for physicians with the Ohio State Legislature.

Letters were read from both OSMA and Rep. Charles Carney in answer to our request for information about the amount of money expended by the Northeast Ohio Health Care Foundation. OSMA had no information. Rep. Carney said that he would take appropriate action to assist us.

A letter was read from HEW in which they offered to send in experts for peer review training for our physicians. The motion was made by Dr. Pichette and properly seconded, that a reply be sent expressing the attitude of the Mahoning County Medical Society toward government peer review. Motion was passed.

A letter was read from Mr. Ihle, St. Elizabeth Hospital, in regard to getting interested parties together to discuss malpractice claims and how to handle them. The matter was referred to the Medical-Legal Committee. A letter is to be sent to Mr. Ihle stating that the Medical Society agrees with the concept and that it has been referred to committee. The secretary was requested to write to New Mexico to find out how a malpractice plan is functioning there.

The treasurer's report was read. It was noted that 21 members have not yet paid their 1974 dues. Council approved sending to them the usual letter stating that their names would be published in the *Bulletin* if payment is not received by March 31st. Letter is to be sent by certified mail.

Dr. Tandatnick, a member of the blood bank committee, reported on a meeting with the Red Cross committee at which agreement was reached for the beginning of the organization of a community blood bank along lines set up by the government with equal representation of hospital blood banking personnel, county medical society, and lay representatives.

A new check-list for incoming physicians which is being prepared by the Indocination committee was passed around.

Dr. Abdu, chairman, reported for the insurance committee. Discussion ensued concerning the advisability of having a neutral insurance agent discuss policies at a future council meeting.

Dr. Melnick and Dr. Abdu reported on a meeting that they attended with the Youngstown Board of Health and Model Cities at the request of Dr. Goldberg, member of the Board of Health. The purpose of attendance at that meeting was that the physicians be informed of a sliding fee schedule at the Model Cities clinics.

A letter from Dr. Lieber inviting council, officers, legislative and hospital relations committees to an OSMA meeting at Congress Lake on March 27th was noted. Those free on that date will attend the meeting.

Dr. Brucoli made the motion, properly seconded, that, starting in 1975, the entire cost of room and board for each delegate and alternate delegate attending the annual OSMA meeting be paid by the Medical Society. It was understood that this means a single cost when a double room is used. Motion was passed.

Dr. White, program chairman, announced Marvin Edwards to be the speaker at March 19th meeting, to which members of the Bar Association,

Dental Society and Osteopathic Association and wives have been invited. He and Dr. Melnick urged attendance.

The motion was made by Dr. Abdu that a letter be sent to Dr. Oscar W. Clark, president of OSMA commending him for his leadership and giving him unanimous support for his letter to the secretary of HEW in regard to the precertification law, and that this be brought to the attention of the members at the March 19th meeting. (Letter was dated Jan. 23, 1974.) Motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion ensued concerning a Medical Economics article in regard to directories of physicians being published by a group headed by Mr. Nader. It was suggested that area physicians not answer any questions without consulting Medical Society.

Meeting was adjourned.

—Howard Rempes
Executive Secretary

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT — PROPOSED AMENDMENT

In accordance with the constitution of the Mahoning County Medical Society, the following proposed constitutional amendment has been read at an open session of a regular meeting. Also in accordance with the constitution, the proposed amendment is herein being sent to every member in advance of the meeting at which the final vote will be taken, which is Tuesday, May 19th, 6:30 p.m. at the Youngstown Club.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Amendment to the By-Laws — Chapter III, Section 5, page 20, following the last paragraph, make this addition:

ALTERNATE DELEGATES: In order to be eligible for nomination and election to this position, a member must have served at least one year on Council.

DELEGATES: In order to be eligible for nomination and election to this position, a member must have been an Alternate Delegate for two years, and attended at least one meeting of the House of Delegates of the Ohio State Medical Association during his (her) term as Alternate Delegate.

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS HEAR ALCOHOLIC PROBLEM

The Medical Assistants Society of Mahoning County heard Mr. Lawrence Gura, counselor and consultant for the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Program speak at their March meeting. He discussed the problems facing the alcoholic and his family.

The Society is planning a white elephant auction to defray expenses for their delegates to the State Convention in Toledo, May 1-5.

They will elect officers at their next formal meeting.

—Betty Ann Perschka

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